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2813
#8/Election
4/30/03

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By: Markus A. Smith

Date: April 21, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Sabine Steck et al.
Applic. No. : 10/078,997
Filed : February 20, 2002
Title : Trench with Buried Plate and Method for its
Production
Examiner : Jack S. J. Chen
Group Art Unit : 2813

R E S P O N S E

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D. C. 20231

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S i r :

Responsive to the Office Action dated March 24, 2003, the following remarks are made:

In deference to the election requirement on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, Applicants elect species I for prosecution at this time.

Applicants will consider in due time whether or not to file a divisional for any non-elected species.

The following claims read on the elected species: claims 1-8.

In view of the foregoing, the early issuance of an Action on the merits, and the allowance of the claims are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Reg. No. 37,006

For Applicants
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